

CHILDREN'S VOICE

WAUKESHA COUNTY'S CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAM MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

-January 2022 -



New Issue of All in for Kids Newsletter Available Online

This issue provides important Children's Long-Term Support (CLTS) Program updates, including:

- Step 5 of Deciding Together: Reviewing supports and services to help make sure your family's goals are being met
- Renewing the CLTS Program and improvements, including:
 - o Ending the routine use of physical restraint, isolation, and seclusion by CLTS providers
 - o Improving guidance on youth transitioning to adulthood
- Reminder that remote services are available
- Winter family fun ideas
- Information about free COVID-19 vaccinations for everyone 5 years of age and older
- Helpful resources for families

The English version can be found <u>here</u>, Spanish version can be found <u>here</u>, and the Hmong version can be found <u>here</u>.

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services is committed to keeping families informed about the CLTS Program. Through the All in for Kids: CLTS newsletter, families can learn more about the CLTS Program, its policies, and other news.



Children's Long Term Support Council Parent Membership Need

Are you a parent of a child with disabilities enrolled in the Children's Long Term Support Waiver, or know someone who is, who might be interested in making a difference in the lives of Wisconsin's children by sharing your expertise on a council? If you answered "yes", here is a little more about this unique opportunity to share your real-life experiences.

The <u>Children's Long Term Support Council</u> serves as an advisory body to the WI Department of Health Services (DHS) Secretary and is in need of additional parent representatives to join our current membership. This Council is comprised of 23 individuals who are parents, advocates, county human services and service providers or representatives of health-related organizations serving children with disabilities.

This Council is responsible to provide recommendations on needed infrastructures, accountability measures and mechanism, financing systems, training programs, program design elements, efficiencies and statewide equity and service delivery implementation.

The council meets four times a year. In 2022, this Council will be meeting on January 12; April 13; July 13 and October 12. Meetings are typically all day, starting at 9 and ending around 2 pm. Currently all meetings are remote, in the future meeting are planned to be held remote and in person in Madison. Members may be eligible to be reimbursed for meals, mileage or hotel accommodations.

Expertise as a parent is the skill set that we are looking for!

Interested individuals are welcome to learn more about the CLTS Council on the DHS website at: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/cltscouncil/index.htm. Additional details on how to apply can be found at: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/cltscouncil/members.htm.



PARENTS UNITED

Parents United is a coalition of 26 school districts in collaboration with educators, community resources and related service providers focused on empowering parents of children with disabilities to become effective advocates and informed decision-makers. This non-profit community-based organization provides regular informational workshops featuring experts presenting a wide range of topics relative to students with disabilities and their families.

January Program:

REGULATION FOR STUDENTS THROUGH STRESS AND TRAUMA

All people experience stress from time to time. However, when that stress is significant and persistent, it can overwhelm our capacity to respond. This is sometimes called toxic stress or trauma. In this session we will learn how overwhelming stress can impact the developing brain and stress response system in a child and how the body adapts to this exposure. We will review the stages of escalation and dysregulation that a child may experience in an upsetting event. Strategies that promote regulation and resilience will be shared.

Wednesday, January 12th, 2022 9-11:30am Event held over ZOOM

For more information follow their facebook page https://www.facebook.com/ParentsUnitedWI/



FUN ACTIVITIES

Stone Bank/Oconomowoc Winter Farmers Market:

A local working farm located in Stone Bank, Wisconsin, providing fresh produce, dairy products, poultry, pork, and organic grass-fed beef, as well as a wide variety of artisanal foods.

When: Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Duration: November 6, 2021 to March 26, 2022 Where: N68W33208 County Road K, Oconomowoc, WI For Additional Information:

https://stonebankmarket.com/

Waukesha Public Library

LEGO Club-Children's Area January 13th, February 17th, March 17th, and April 14th. 4:00pm. Create, Build, & Meet new LEGO loving friends of all ages.

Autism Society of WI snowtubing at Sunburst

When: February 13th from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Take advantage of this affordable opportunity to take the whole family on a fun-filled experience and connect with other Autism Society members. Take a break in the warming barn reserved for Autism Society members and enjoy complimentary hot chocolate! To purchase a \$5 ticket:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/snow-tubing-atsunburst-winter-sports-park-in-kewaskum-tickets-220241527337

Waukesha Janboree

Fireworks, make and play activities, pancake breakfast, penguin egg hunt, games, and much more! Date: January 14 - January 23, 2022 For Additional Information: https://www.janboree.org/



INCLUSION CAFÉ COMING TO HARTLAND

A recent UW-Whitewater graduate is opening a new coffee spot in Hartland called the Inclusion Coffee Company. The founder says she plans to hire at least 20 people with special needs to start. She wants to give this vulnerable population more opportunities she feels are missed. Jack, who has Down Syndrome was her first hire. He is excited to work at Inclusion "because it will be fun and I will get to meet a lot of people—I'll make coffee drinks and make people happy with them!" The opening is set for March of 2022. More information can be found here: https://www.tmj4.com/news/local-news/uw-whitewater-graduate-using-degree-to-open-coffee-shop-hire-people-with-special-needs

UPCOMING MEETING

Please join us at the next Special Services Advisory Committee (SSAC) meeting in February.

SSAC meets every quarter to discuss the needs of the children enrolled in the CLTS waiver program. Your input is valued and important to best serve you!

WHEN: February 17, 2022 WHERE: Room 114 at HHS

514 Riverview Ave Waukesha, WI 53188

November 17th, 2022

Upcoming dates for the rest of 2022: May 19th, 2022 September 15th, 2022

We are looking forward to seeing you there!



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We would love your feedback!

The Children with Special Needs Program would like your feedback regarding our newsletter! What can we add? What should we change? Do you have resources to share?

Please email Vickie Smith (CLTS Waiver Program Coordinator) at: vsmith@waukeshacounty.gov